

TED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant

Tim P. Horwood, et al.

App. No.

10/606,605

Filed

June 26, 2003

For

PORTABLE SPA

Examiner

Charles E. Phillips

Group Art Unit: 3751

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

June 7, 2004

Craig S. Summers, Reg. No. 31,430

PETITION FOR WITHDRAWAL AS ATTORNEY PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.36 AND REQUEST TO ESTABLISH NEW CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS UNDER M.P.E.P. § 402.10

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

ATTENTION: Director Group 3751

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.36, the Petitioner requests permission to withdraw as attorney for applicants, Tim P. Horwood and Keith W. Lovell, in all matters pending before the Patent and Trademark Office, including the above-identified application. Keith W. Lovell and Tim P. Horwood are the assignees of this application pursuant to an assignment of rights from the third named inventor, John E. Pope. A copy of this assignment, recorded on January 26, 2000, at Reel/Frame 010553/0625, is enclosed.

Because Petitioner seeks to withdraw as to both applicants, Petitioner also requests the Office to establish a new correspondence address pursuant to M.P.E.P. § 402.10. The last known mailing addresses of each applicant are set forth below.

The Petitioner is authorized by, and makes this request on behalf of, the law firm of Knobbe, Martens, Olson & Bear, LLP (Customer No. 20,995), including all of its individual members.

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The last known mailing addresses of the applicants are:

Tim P. Horwood 10451 Latour Lane Mira Loma, CA 91752

Keith W. Lovell 8 Navajo Trail Lane Pomona, CA 91766

The basis for the Petition for Withdrawal is 37 C.F.R. § 10.40(c)(1)(iv). The following facts support the granting of this petition:

- 1. In December 1999, Applicants engaged Petitioner's law firm to prepare and file a patent application for a Portable Spa.
- 2. Petitioner prepared the application, which was filed on January 26, 2000 and assigned Application No. 09/491,361.
- 3. On May 2, 2002, Petitioner filed a continuation application at Applicants' request. The continuation application was assigned Application No. 10/137,929 and claimed priority to the parent Application No. 09/491,361, which was then abandoned.
- 4. On July 1, 2003, the continuation application issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,584,624 ("the '624 patent").
- 5. Prior to issuance of the '624 patent, Petitioner filed another continuation application at Applicants' request. This continuation application was filed on June 26, 2003 and assigned Application No. 10/606,605. This application, which is currently pending, is the application from which Petitioner seeks to withdraw.
- 6. In or about August 2003, Petitioner became aware of a disagreement between the two Applicants, Mr. Lovell and Mr. Horwood, regarding: (1) how to address certain issues regarding the '624 patent; and (2) how to prosecute the pending continuation application. Subsequent efforts to resolve the disagreement were unsuccessful. Because of this disagreement, Petitioner has been provided with conflicting instructions from the Applicants on how to proceed with the '624 patent and the pending continuation application.
- 7. Due to these conflicting instructions from Applicants, it is not possible for Petitioner to carry out the employment effectively, or at all, within the meaning of 37 C.F.R. § 10.40(c)(i)(iv).
- 8. Applicants have been informed that Petitioner would withdraw as their attorney in connection with both the '624 patent and the pending continuation application.

One of the two Applicants has stated that he would not agree to Petitioner's withdrawal by consent, and the other Applicant has stated that he would consider Petitioner's withdrawal by consent. Because it would be necessary for Petitioner to file this Petition for Withdrawal for at least one of the two inventors, Petitioner has chosen to file this Petition as to both Applicants.

- 9. Petitioner understands that one of the Applicants has retained an attorney to represent his interests, and the other Applicant has consulted with an attorney regarding his interests.
- 10. The status of the '624 patent is that the first maintenance fee is due on January 1, 2007.
- 11. The status of the above-identified application is that an Office Action was mailed on March 19, 2004 seeking an election of claims. The final date for responding to this Office Action, including all available extensions under 37.C.F.R.§ 1.136(a), is September 19, 2004.

The Petitioner has taken reasonable steps to avoid foreseeable prejudice to the rights of Applicants. Such that the Applicants' rights are preserved, and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 10.40(a), the Petitioner has delivered into the possession of the Applicants the following information:

- (1) due notice that the attorney is withdrawing;
- (2) a copy of this Petition, including attachments;
- (3) the time necessary for response to the March 19, 2004 Office Action in the pending continuation application;
- (4) the address of the Patent and Trademark Office where the applicant needs to write and submit any response to the March 19, 2004 Office Action;
- (5) if extensions and extension fees are required, then this information has also been indicated; and
- (6) the times necessary for the payment of maintenance fees for the '624 patent, and the address of the Patent and Trademark Office where the Applicants need to send maintenance fee payments;
- (7) delivered to the client all papers and property to which the client is entitled.

Copies of the letters to the Applicants regarding the above matters are enclosed.

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In accordance with 1058 O.G. 32, this petition is enclosed in triplicate to expedite its handling.

The Petitioner, on behalf of the law firm of Knobbe, Martens, Olson & Bear, LLP (Customer No. 20,995), including all of its individual members, respectfully requests permission to withdraw as attorney in the above-referenced case now pending before the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Authorized and Signing on behalf of all attorneys of record

Craig S. Summers Registration No. 31,430 Attorney of Record Customer No. 20,995 (949) 760-0404

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Lang J. McHardy 50,591 Lori Lee Yamato 40,881	Lang J. McHardy	50,591	Lori Lee Yamato	40,881
Andrew N. Merickel 53,317		•	•	
Tiffany C. Miller 52,032	Tiffany C. Miller	52,032		

HOLLUOOD. 0010 APRIL 21, 2000



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF Patent and Trademark Office

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RECORDATION DATE: 01/26/2000

REEL/FRAME: 010553/0625

NO DATES DOCKETED

INITIAL

ATTORNEY RESPONSIBLE

NUMBER OF PAGES: 2

BRIEF: ASSIGNMENT OF ASSIGNOR'S INTEREST (SEE DOCUMENT FOR DETAILS).

ASSIGNOR:

POPE, JOHN E.

DOC DATE: 01/21/2000

ASSIGNEE:

LOVELL, KEITH W. 8 NAVAJO TRAIL LANE POMONA, CALIFORNIA 91766

ASSIGNEE:

HORWOOD, TIM P. 14733 WILLOW CREEK LANE CHINO HILLS, CALIFORNIA 91709

SERIAL NUMBER: 09491361 PATENT NUMBER:

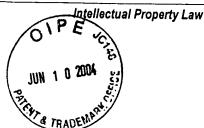
FILING DATE: 01/26/2000

ISSUE DATE:

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Knobbe Martens Olson & Bear LLP



2040 Main Street Fourteenth Floor Irvine, CA 92614 Tel 949-760-0404 Fax 949-760-9502 www.kmob.com

Craig S. Summers



June 7, 2004

Mr. Keith W. Lovell 8 Navajo Trail Lane Pomona, CA 91766

Re:

U.S. Patent No.: 6,584,624

Issued: July 1, 2003 Title: PORTABLE SPA

Our Reference No.: HORWOOD.001C1

Dear Keith:

As you know from our previous discussions and correspondence, we are withdrawing as your attorney in connection with the above-referenced patent. A copy of our Petition to Withdraw, including its attachments, is enclosed.

As stated in my letter to you dated July 29, 2003, the above-identified patent will remain in effect until January 26, 2020 provided that you pay the maintenance fees that are due as follows: January 1, 2007 (3 ½ years from issue date); January 1, 2011 (7 ½ years from issue date); and January 1, 2014 (11 ½ years from issue date). Maintenance fee payments should be sent to the Patent Office at the following address:

United States Patent and Trademark Office P.O. Box 371611
Pittsburgh, PA 15250-1611

Because we no longer represent you with respect to this patent, or any other matter, you must calendar these dates and pay these maintenance fees if you wish to maintain the patent in force. Accordingly, we will not send you any further reminders regarding the payment of these maintenance fees or any other matter regarding this patent.

Sincerely,

Craig S. Summers

Enclosures

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Knobbe Martens Olson & Bear LLP



2040 Main Street Fourteenth Floor Irvine, CA 92614 Tel 949-760-0404 Fax 949-760-9502 www.kmob.com

Craig S. Summers

June 7, 2004

Mr. Tim Horwood 10451 Latour Lane Mira Loma, CA 91752

Re:

U.S. Continuation Patent Application

Application No.: 10/606,605 Filing Date: June 26, 2003 Title: PORTABLE SPA

Our Reference No.: HORWOOD.001C2

COPY

Dear Tim:

As you know from our previous discussions and correspondence, we are withdrawing as your attorney in connection with the above-referenced continuation application. A copy of our Petition to Withdraw, including its attachments, is enclosed.

As you also know, the Patent Office has issued an Office Action in the above-identified application, which I previously forwarded to you in my letter dated April 6, 2004. As explained in that letter, a response to this Office Action was due by April 19, 2004. If you did not respond to this Office Action, you may still respond provided you pay the extension fees charged by the Patent Office. The extensions which are available to you, and the current Patent Office charges to obtain such extensions, are set forth below:

IF YOU RESPOND TO	THE EXTENSION FEE CHARGED BY	
THE OFFICE ACTION BY	THE PATENT OFFICE WILL BE	
June 19, 2004	\$210	
July 19, 2004	\$475	
August 19, 2004	\$740	
September 19, 2004 (last day to respond)	\$1,005	

The Patent Office address where you should mail your response is:

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

~ Knobbe Martens Olson & Bear шР

Mr. Tim Horwood June 7, 2004 Page -2-

If you do not respond to the pending Office Action and pay the appropriate extension fees, then the application will go abandoned. The absolute last day to respond is September 19, 2004. No more extensions are available after this date. Because we do not represent you any longer in connection with this continuation application, or any other matter, we will not be sending any further reminders to you regarding responding to the pending Office Action.

Sincerely,

Craig S. Summers

Enclosures

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